State of Arizona Senate Forty-sixth Legislature First Regular Session 2003

CHAPTER 220

## **SENATE BILL 1231**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 48-1907 AND 48-1910, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO HOSPITAL DISTRICTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 48-1907, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 48-1907. Powers of hospital district

- A. A hospital district may:
- 1. Adopt and use a corporate seal.
- 2. Sue and be sued in all courts and places and in all actions and proceedings whatever.
- 3. Purchase, receive, have, take, hold, lease, use and enjoy property of every kind and description within the limits of the district, and control, dispose of, convey, encumber and create leasehold interests in such property for the benefit of the district.
- 4. Administer trusts declared or created for the hospital district, and receive by gift, devise or bequest and hold in trust or otherwise, property located within the state or elsewhere and, when not otherwise provided, dispose of such property for the benefit of the hospital district.
- 5. Provide for the operation and maintenance at a single location within the district of a hospital, urgent care center, combined hospital and ambulance service or combined urgent care center and ambulance service owned or operated by the district. If the hospital district provides for the operation of an ambulance service, ambulance services shall be provided to all areas within the district. AN EXISTING HOSPITAL DISTRICT LOCATED IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PERSONS OPERATING AT A SINGLE LOCATION MAY EXPAND TO A SECOND LOCATION IF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HOSPITAL DISTRICT FINDS AT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE MATTER THAT AN ADDITIONAL LOCATION IS REASONABLY NECESSARY FOR THE PERSONS SERVED BY THE DISTRICT.
- 6. Impose a secondary property tax on all taxable property within the district for the purpose of funding the operation and maintenance of a hospital, urgent care center, combined hospital and ambulance service or combined urgent care center and ambulance service that is owned or operated by the district or to pay costs of an ambulance service contract entered into pursuant to this section. The amount of the levy necessary for the operation and maintenance of the ambulance service, if any, shall be separately stated in the levy. Prior to the initial imposition of such a tax a majority of the qualified electors voting in a regular or special election must approve such initial imposition. The continued imposition of such a tax must be approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting in a regular or special election at least every five years from the date of the initial imposition.
- 7. Contract with an existing hospital, ambulance service, city, town or fire district within the district to provide ambulance related services. If the district does contract for ambulance services, the district shall ensure that ambulance services are provided to all areas within the district. No such contract may provide for the use of aircraft.

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- B. The amount of a levy under subsection A, paragraph 6 shall not exceed the greater of:
- 1. Six hundred thousand dollars, adjusted annually from a 1989 base year according to the health services component of the metropolitan Phoenix consumer price index published by the bureau of business and economic research, college of business administration, Arizona state university, or its successor.
- 2. Ten per cent of the hospital's or urgent care center's total expenses for all purposes required or authorized by this chapter and incurred in the fiscal year ending immediately before the levy.
- C. An existing hospital may be converted into an urgent care center by a vote of the board of directors of the district if the conversion is in the best interests of the district. However, An existing urgent care center shall not be converted into a hospital unless the hospital district is created pursuant to section 48-261 and this chapter.
  - Sec. 2. Section 48-1910, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 48-1910. Powers of board of directors: transaction privilege tax; election
- A. The board of directors may purchase surgical instruments, hospital equipment, ambulance equipment and other property and supplies necessary for equipping a hospital, urgent care center, combined hospital and ambulance service or combined urgent care center and ambulance service, except that the board shall not purchase, rent or contract for the use of aircraft. The board may purchase real property, and erect or rent and equip buildings or rooms necessary for the hospital, urgent care center, combined hospital and ambulance service or combined urgent care center and ambulance service.
- B. The board of directors shall lease the hospital as provided by section 48-1911, provided however that after all bonded indebtedness of the district has been paid the board of directors may lease the hospital and its equipment to any person or corporation for the purpose of conducting a health care facility upon such terms and conditions as the board of directors of the district deems to be beneficial to the hospital district.
- C. FOR A HOSPITAL DISTRICT WITH BOUNDARIES THAT ARE COTERMINOUS WITH A COUNTY'S BOUNDARIES, THAT IS LOCATED IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND PERSONS AND IN WHICH NO MORE THAN SIX PER CENT OF THE REAL PROPERTY BY AREA IN THAT COUNTY IS SUBJECT TO TAXATION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY REQUEST THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLACE THE QUESTION OF A LEVY OF A TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX TO SUPPORT THE DISTRICT ON THE NEXT BALLOT FOR A COUNTYWIDE ELECTION. ON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY CALL A SPECIAL ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF A LEVY OF TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX OR MAY PLACE THE QUESTION ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NEXT REGULAR COUNTYWIDE ELECTION. THE QUESTION SHALL INCLUDE THE RATE OF THE TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX. THE RATE OF THE TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN TEN PER CENT OF THE TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX RATE PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 42-5010, SUBSECTION A, APPLYING, AS

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OF JANUARY 1, 1990, TO EACH PERSON ENGAGING IN OR CONTINUING IN THE DISTRICT IN A BUSINESS TAXED UNDER TITLE 42, CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 1. IF A HOSPITAL DISTRICT ALREADY HAS A PROPERTY TAX PURSUANT TO SECTION 48-1907, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 6, THE QUESTION SHALL REQUIRE THAT THE PROPERTY TAX BE REPEALED ON THE IMPOSITION OF A TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX. ON APPROVAL BY A MAJORITY OF THOSE PERSONS VOTING ON THE QUESTION, THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHALL LEVY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SHALL COLLECT A TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION TO BE USED AND SPENT FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN THIS CHAPTER. THE INITIAL LEVY OF THE TAX SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO FIVE YEARS AND MAY BE RENEWED BY A SUBSEQUENT VOTE OF THE COUNTY'S QUALIFIED ELECTORS FOR ADDITIONAL PERIODS OF FIVE YEARS. EACH MONTH THE STATE TREASURER SHALL REMIT TO THE COUNTY TREASURER THE NET REVENUES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION DURING THE SECOND PRECEDING MONTH. THE COUNTY TREASURER SHALL REMIT THE MONIES TO THE HOSPITAL DISTRICT TREASURER WHO SHALL DEPOSIT THE MONIES IN THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND.

D. A HOSPITAL DISTRICT SHALL NOT LEVY A TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX AT THE SAME TIME THAT IT IS IMPOSING A SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX PURSUANT TO SECTION 48-1907.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MAY 14, 2003.

FILMO IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 15, 2003.

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Passed the House April 14, 20 03	Passed the Senate March 4, 2003,				
by the following vote: 48 Ayes,	by the following vote: 27 Ayes,				
	Nays, / Not Voting				
Speaker, of the House Pro Tempore	President of the Senate				
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Chief Clerk of the House	Asst. Secretary of the Senate				
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Secretary of State

## SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

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